

Susan McLaughlin

From: Lisa DAlessio [lisa@dalessio.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 21, 2007 10:52 PM
To: selectmen@stow-ma.gov
Cc: Stephen Dungan; Ellen Sturgis
Subject: Roundabout proposal

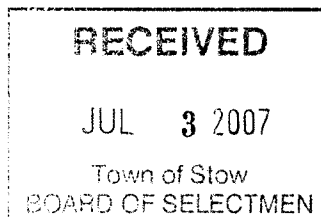
Mr. Dungan, Mr. Robart, Mr. Ruggiero, Ms. Sturgis and Ms. Farrell,

I am writing to urge the Board to postpone any further action on the Lower Village Subcommittee's roundabout proposal. Now is the time for the Board to set priorities for the town and stick to them. The residents spoke loud and clear at Town Meeting this year. They are ready to support the recommendation of the SBTF and provide appropriate space for the elementary schools in Stow. The project has support and momentum. It is also critical that we deal with the space issues in the schools NOW. If residents are asked to consider this non-essential matter now, we risk losing the support that the SBTF (and the SBC before us) fought so hard to gain. The traffic situation in the Lower Village is hardly a critical matter. In addition, there do not seem to be any answers as to the extent of state funding we would receive for this project and the disruption resulting from two major construction projects potentially going at the same time in Stow cannot be ignored.

It is imperative that the Board stand behind its support of Article 36 and keep the focus on seeing that project through before embarking on another major project in town. You owe it to the voters, who came out to Town Meeting in record numbers, to make sure their votes were not cast in vain.

Sincerely,
Lisa D'Alessio, Robert Rd.
(former member SBTF)

Raoul A. Graf
211 Red Acre Road
Stow, MA 01775



Tel. 508 245 5588 Fax 508 275 3334 E-mail ragramail@aol.com

Town of Stow
Board of Selectmen
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775

July 3, 2007

**PETITION FOR SPEED LIMIT ZONE EXTENSION
ON A PORTION OF RED ACRE ROAD**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

At the Highway Department's suggestion, I am directing this request to you for review and implementation.

A. OVERVIEW

Red Acre Road has three different speed limits. Starting at Great Road, a 30mph speed limit extends northeast for approximately one mile, where it changes to 35mph for about one third of a mile, after which it is set at 25mph to the town line.

The enclosed two maps, showing all relevant details, have been prepared to assist in familiarizing yourselves with the current situation and to make an immediate initial assessment of this petition's merits.

B. PROPOSED CHANGE

It is requested that the 30mph speed limit zone is extended by about one tenth of a mile further northeast, from its current ending point at 208/214 and 211 Red Acre Road (where the 35mph zone now begins) to the vicinity

of the first intersection at Farm Road, thereby reducing the 35mph stretch to begin there (at Farm Road intersection) and end at its current position at 267 Red Acre Road.

C. REASON FOR REQUEST

There may have been a time when a 35mph speed limit was warranted in this area. Recent additions of new homes with driveways leading into Red Acre Road, however, have made this relatively short stretch in a **heavily wooded area** more **densely populated** than most other parts of the entire road, including the 25mph speed limit zone.

Families with **small children** now reside here.

Mailboxes are located on one side only (federally mandated according to sources at the Post Office in Stow), forcing many residents to cross the narrow street at times in the dark, especially in winter when the Postal Service makes deliveries late in the day.

All this has led to many **precarious situations** for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles leaving or entering the driveways.

D. NO NEED FOR A TRAFFIC STUDY

The fact that there are no other comparable roads with a 35mph speed limit in the entire town of Stow and that the stretch in question is actually considered "thickly settled" would suggest that a simple on-site inspection by the responsible parties who ultimately make the necessary approvals should suffice. A traffic study, which is understood to be customary with such requests, whether extensive or not, would unnecessarily delay implementation of this urgently needed change.

E. MINIMAL COST

The cost of this effort is negligible. All that is required is for the Highway Dept. to remove the posts at their current location and move them to their new spot just past the first Farm Road intersection, where they would be clearly visible from both directions.

F. NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPORT

All households abutting the stretch of road in question have been informed in writing of this petition and either fully support or have no objections to this action.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

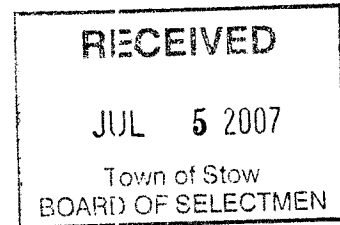
A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. Graf' with a stylized flourish at the end.

Raoul A. Graf

Enclosures: 2 Maps (2 sets)

cc. -Stow Police Dept., 305 Great Road
 -Stow Highway Dept., 380 Great Road

50 Dunster Drive
Stow, MA 01775
5 July 2007



Board of Selectmen
Town of Stow
Stow Town Building
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775

Selectmen:

This letter is to notify the Board of Selectmen of the execution of a purchase and sale agreement to sell 3,017 square feet of Chapter 61 land. A copy of the purchase and sale agreement is attached.

The land use will remain unchanged. I am in the process of renewing the Chapter 61 forestry classification for our property; this parcel of 0.07 acres is shown as removed from Chapter 61 in the new filing.

Given the small size of this parcel and the fact that it has no significance to the Town of Stow I request a quick decision as to whether the town has any interest in exercising its right to match the offer.


William L Avery


Josephine V Avery

Copy:
Board of Assessors
Planning Board
Conservation Commission
Bill Estes, Forester

June 22, 2007

Dear Superintendent:

I am pleased to announce that the Massachusetts School Building Authority (the "MSBA") is now accepting Statements of Interest ("SOIs") **electronically**, through its online SOI System. This new submission method will streamline the SOI process and allow communities to more readily submit SOIs to the MSBA. As of June 21, 2007, all communities submitting an SOI must use the online SOI System. Communities that have submitted a complete SOI prior to this date do **not** need to resubmit the SOI. If you are considering submitting an SOI, please contact Richard Gill at the Massachusetts School Building Authority (617.720.4466 or richard.gill@massschoolbuildings.org) to obtain a unique user ID and a password for the MSBA's SOI System.

To be considered for a grant from the MSBA in FY2008, a properly completed SOI and all required documentation, including the required votes of the municipal governing body and school committee, a signed copy of the SOI, and all applicable enrollment data, must be received by the MSBA, in the format required by the MSBA, by no later than July 31, 2007.

Why is an SOI important? What are the next steps?

Submitting an SOI is the critical first step in the MSBA's new grant program for school building construction and renovation. The MSBA will not consider any problem for funding without a properly completed SOI.

- The new MSBA grant program, capped at \$500M for FY2008, will be a competitive grant program where grants will be distributed by the MSBA Board of Directors based on need (building condition) and urgency (enrollment growth), as expressed by the community and validated by the MSBA.
- When completing an SOI, communities should outline what they believe are the deficiencies in an existing school facility and demonstrate how those deficiencies fit the eight statutory priorities for funding set forth in M.G.L. c. 70B, § 8.
- So far, we have received 222 SOIs from over 100 different districts and we anticipate that several more will be filed prior to the deadline of July 31, 2007.
- The SOI's already filed outline local school facilities problems ranging from the need for roofing, HVAC, and other systematic repairs to what many districts describe as "tired" educational facilities in need of updating. Thus, the level of due diligence that the MSBA will complete in order to assess all the SOI's in a standard way will vary depending upon the size and scope of the problems submitted by the district. (For example, the process for validating the need for a

new roof will take less time than validating the problems of a building with multiple building systems failure.)

- No funding decisions for any potential projects in FY2008 can be made until the MSBA has received and reviewed the entire cohort of Statements of Interest after July 31, 2007.
- Statements of Interest already received at the MSBA are being reviewed currently by staff. The MSBA has already begun visiting some of the local school districts who have already submitted SOI's to start facilities and maintenance assessments, which validate the building "need," and has made several school visits for a first-hand assessment of "urgency" (student overcrowding, for example) as described to us by the district through their SOI submission.

Over the next several months, the MSBA will be working with communities that submit an SOI to verify the problem identified by the district and, if there is funding available to assist in fixing any problems from the MSBA, collaborate on potential solutions. Many districts that have sent in Statements of Interest have some outstanding items remaining to be sent to the MSBA, and MSBA staff will begin contacting districts soon as a reminder to complete the SOI prior to July 31, 2007.

It is important to note that although the moratorium on new school building grants is over as of July 1, 2007, the SOI submission deadline is July 31, 2007. This means that the Board of the MSBA will not have a complete view of who has filed SOIs until early August. Staff at the MSBA has been diligently reviewing SOIs and will continue this work as more SOIs are received.

I hope that you are pleased with the new SOI submission process. Many superintendents were extremely helpful to me and the MSBA last year as we worked together to develop the space planning guidelines for new schools and imparted a great deal of constructive feedback about our new regulations. I continue to work with you, individually and collectively through your able representatives, Tom Scott and Paul Andrews, at the MASS as we together find ways to make the precious MSBA dollars extend as far across the Commonwealth as possible.

Sincerely,

Katherine P. Craven
Executive Director



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133

(617) 725-4000

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JUN 28 2007

Town of Stow
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

June 29, 2007

Dear Municipal Leader:

Every day we make important choices about where and how we will grow in Massachusetts. These decisions have profound implications. While we have made progress, more needs to be done to ensure that the interests of future generations are not compromised by today's decisions.

I am pleased to announce the continuation of the Commonwealth Capital Policy in order to encourage municipalities to work in partnership with the Commonwealth to achieve smart growth. Commonwealth Capital explicitly endorses planning and zoning measures that are consistent with the enclosed Sustainable Development Principles and encourages municipalities to implement them by using state funding as an incentive.

In many ways, Commonwealth Capital has been a success. Municipalities committed to 300 improvements in their 2005 applications, and of them, more than 115 were implemented in the first year. Commonwealth Capital has also been important in ways that can't be quantified. It has inspired better communication and cooperation between local boards and commissions and provided a specific list of Commonwealth endorsed measures that municipalities can undertake to realize smart growth.

For fiscal year 2008 changes to Commonwealth Capital will be relatively modest. Some of these changes reflect my priorities and others address legitimate concerns that have been raised in regard to this policy. Most notably, I have altered the list of programs to which the Policy applies. Over the course of the next year I have directed my staff to work with all interested stakeholders to thoroughly review Commonwealth Capital and recommend other substantive changes that may be warranted for future years.

It will take our cooperative efforts to build a greater quantity and diversity of housing, develop the businesses we need to provide jobs and increase revenue, and do a better job of acting as stewards of our natural resources for future generations. My administration is interested in working in partnership with municipalities to improve our conservation and development practices. I will work to ensure that state policies, programs, and investments encourage smart growth and I ask municipalities to do the same. In addition, recognizing that time, effort, and funding are necessary to produce better plans and land use regulations, the Commonwealth will provide tools and financial and technical assistance to support your hard work.

I look forward to working with you to leave the Commonwealth better than we found it.

Sincerely,

Susan McLaughlin

From: DLSAlerts@dor-listserver.dor.state.ma.us on behalf of DLS Alerts [igr@dor.state.ma.us]
Sent: Tuesday, July 03, 2007 11:33 AM
To: dls_alerts@dor-listserver.dor.state.ma.us
Subject: FY2008 Local Aid Estimates

On July 2, 2007 the Legislature approved the Conference Committee's version of the FY2008 budget. The Division of Local Services has posted updated local aid estimates based on the Conference Committee budget recommendations. The appropriations for Chapter 70, Lottery and Additional Assistance are consistent with the amounts in the legislative resolution approved on April 4, 2007.

Updated estimates are available for downloading at:

<http://www.mass.gov/?pageID=dorsubtopic&L=5&L0=Home&L1=Local+Officials&L2=Municipal+Data+and+Financial+Management&L3=Cherry+Sheets&L4=FY2008+Cherry+Sheets&sid=Ador>

Please be advised that these estimates are based on the appropriation levels appearing in the Conference Committee report and are subject to final approval by the Governor. Charter School Tuition Assessments and Reimbursements reflect FY08 enrollment submitted by Charter Schools to DOE.

The estimated School Choice Tuition Assessments and Receipts reflect updated enrollments and costs based on final FY07 data.

If you have questions regarding the updated local aid estimates, please contact Lisa Juskiewicz, Jared Curtis or Donnette Benvenuto at (617) 626-2384.

To remove your email address from future mailings:

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1. Go to <https://www.dor.state.ma.us/apps/feedback/dls/listserv.asp>
 2. Enter your email address in the form field, select Cancel Subscription and click Submit.

Massachusetts Department of Revenue
Division of Local Services
FY2008 Local Aid Assessments

STOW

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JUL 3 2007

Town of Stow
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

	FY07 Cherry Sheet Estimate	FY08 Governor's Budget (House 1)	FY08 House Final	FY08 Senate Final	FY08 Conference Committee
County Assessments	0	0	0	0	0
State Assessments and Charges:					
Retired Employees Health Insurance	0	0	0	0	0
Retired Teachers Health Insurance	0	0	0	0	0
Mosquito Control Projects	35,947	35,952	35,952	36,473	36,152
Air Pollution Districts	1,941	1,965	1,965	1,965	1,965
Metropolitan Area Planning Council	1,720	1,789	1,789	1,789	1,789
Old Colony Planning Council	0	0	0	0	0
RMV Non-Renewal Surcharge	2,640	2,340	2,340	2,340	2,340
Sub-Total, State Assessments	42,248	42,046	42,046	42,567	42,246
Transportation Authorities:					
MBTA	37,522	39,248	39,248	39,248	39,248
Boston Metro. Transit District	0	0	0	0	0
Regional Transit	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-Total, Transportation Authorities	37,522	39,248	39,248	39,248	39,248
Annual Charges Against Receipts:					
Multi-Year Repayment Programs	0	0	0	0	0
Special Education	0	0	0	0	0
STRAP Repayments	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-Total, Annual Charges	0	0	0	0	0
Tuition Assessments					
School Choice Sending Tuition	0	0	0	0	0
Charter School Sending Tuition	0	0	0	0	0
Essex County Tech Sending Tuition	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-Total, Tuition Assessments	0	0	0	0	0
Total Estimated Charges	79,770	81,294	81,294	81,815	81,494

For additional information about how the estimates were determined and what may cause them to change in the future, please click on the following link:
[Local Aid Estimate Program Summary.](#)

**Massachusetts Department of Revenue
Division of Local Services
FY2008 Local Aid Estimates**

STOW

	FY07 Cherry Sheet Estimate	FY08 Governor's Proposal (House 1)	FY08 House Final Budget	FY08 Senate Final Budget	FY08 Conference Committee
Education:					
Chapter 70	0	0	0 ¹	0 ¹	0 ¹
School Transportation	0	0	0	0	0
Retired Teachers' Pensions	0	0	0	0	0
Charter Tuition Assessment Reimbursement	0	0	0	0	0
Offset Receipts:					
School Lunch	0	0	0	0	0
School Choice Receiving Tuition	0	0	0	0	0
Sub-Total, All Education Items	0	0	0	0	0

General Government:

Lottery Aid	508,164	516,965	516,965 ¹	516,965 ¹	516,965 ¹
Additional Assistance	6,974	6,974	6,974 ¹	6,974 ¹	6,974 ¹
Local Share of Racing Taxes	0	0	0	0	0
Regional Public Libraries	0	0	0	0	0
Police Career Incentive	0	0	0	0	0
Urban Renewal Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Veterans' Benefits	0	0	0	0	0
Exemptions: Vets, Blind & Surviving Spouses	2,575	2,425	5,225	5,225	5,225
Exemptions: Elderly	9,036	8,032	8,032	8,032	8,032
State Owned Land	8,807	9,840	9,840	9,840	9,840
Offset Receipts:					
Public Libraries	8,871	8,168	8,168	8,168	8,644
Sub-Total, All General Government	544,427	552,404	555,204	555,204	555,680
Total Estimated Receipts	544,427	552,404	555,204	555,204	555,680

For additional information about how the estimates were determined and what may cause them to change in the future, please click on the following link:
[Local Aid Estimate Program Summary](#).

¹ Estimates for Chapter 70, Lottery and Additional Assistance are based on a local aid resolution approved by the Legislature on April 4, 2007.

**Massachusetts Department of Revenue
Division of Local Services
FY2008 Local Aid Estimates**

NASHOBA

	FY07 Cherry Sheet Estimate	FY08 Governor's Proposal (House 1)	FY08 House Final Budget	FY08 Senate Final Budget	FY08 Conference Committee
Education:					
Chapter 70	5,871,972	6,030,472	6,289,004 ¹	6,289,004 ¹	6,289,004 ¹
Regional School Transportation	774,338	923,039	992,774	1,024,868	1,024,868
Charter Tuition Assessment Reimbursement	133,089	112,435	112,435	112,435	181,793
Offset Receipts:					
School Lunch	10,051	10,931	10,931	10,931	10,931
School Choice Receiving Tuition	222,160	300,449	300,449	300,449	272,380
Essex County Tech Receiving Tuition	0	0	0	0	0
Total Estimated Receipts	7,011,610	7,377,326	7,705,593	7,737,687	7,778,976
Estimated Charges:					
Special Education	14,095	11,943	11,943	11,943	11,995
School Choice Sending Tuition	310,007	406,598	406,598	406,598	376,971
Charter School Sending Tuition	264,130	287,860	287,860	287,860	370,919
Total Estimated Charges	588,232	706,401	706,401	706,401	759,885
Receipts Net of Charges	6,423,378	6,670,925	6,999,192	7,031,286	7,019,091

For additional information about how the estimates were determined and what may cause them to change in the future, please click on the following link:
[Local Aid Estimate Program Summary.](#)

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